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Scott W. Kelley, Reg. No. 30,762

November 13, 2003

Date

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	) Group Art Unit:
John C. Condon	) ) Examiner:
Serial No. 10/698,860	) )
Filed: October 31, 2003	) ) Docket No. CONDON-42615 \
For: SEMI-AUTOMATIC ANIMAL LITTER	) ) )

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97, enclosed herewith are reference patents relating generally to the above-identified application. These references comprise patents of which Applicant was aware at the time of preparation of the present application. For the convenience of the Examiner, these references are listed on the attached PTO Form PTO-SB 08A.

It is requested that the enclosed reference patents be considered in the examination of this application and that their consideration be made of written record in the application file.

Respectfully submitted,

KELLY BAY ERSFELD LOWRY & KELLEY, LLP

Bv:

Scott W. Kelley Reg. No. 30,762

Attorney for Applicant

SWK:sh Enclosures

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 1

(coc as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/698,860		
Filing Date	October 31, 2003		
First Named Inventor	John C. Condon		
Art Unit			
Examiner Name			
Attorney Docket Number	CONDON-42615		

			U. S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (f known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
•	1	<sup>US-</sup> 4,819,977	04-11-1989	Cooper	
_		<sup>US-</sup> 4,995,661	02-26-1991	Aurness	
		<sup>US-</sup> 5,370,431	12-06-1994	Henninger, et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 5,628,537	05-13-1997	Kiemer	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	L'	<sup>US-</sup> 6,086,123	07-11-2000	Sowinski, et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,196,601	03-06-2001	Juntunen, Jr.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,305,322	10-23-2001	Patel	
		<sup>ÜS-</sup> 2002/0008392	01-24-2002	Harrison	
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 		IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		
Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	
	Country Code <sup>3 -</sup> Number <sup>4 -</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				T6
	PCT/HU92/00061	07-08-1993	Horvath		
	JP-6-33429				
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Examiner		Date	
Signature		Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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